

FAÇADE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Property and business owners are encouraged to apply for the City of Auburn Façade Improvement Program, which provides in many cases up to 50% of the project costs. The City of Auburn has established an opportunity to assist those located in the Historic Areas (Downtown, Midtown and Old Town) to improve and enhance the appearance of their storefronts and buildings by providing grants to eligible façade improvements.

Exterior painting, signage, awnings, lighting, windows and door replacement or modification and building storefront façade restoration are eligible items. Applications will not be accepted to finance improvements which have been subject to a previous building permit or which have already been completed, or to finance elements related to new development or additions. The City is also providing free design assistance by a list of City-approved architects. Past examples of those who have used this opportunity are Clem's Cleaners, Depoe Bay Coffee Company, and Rico's Barber Styling in Downtown.

Grants will be made on a first-come, first-served basis until the funds have been committed (\$14,000 + \$25,000 CDBG). CDBG funds assist low-income business owners. Grants will be calculated on the building's front footage.

<u>Building Front Footage</u>	<u>Improvement Cost</u>	<u>Maximum Grant</u>
25 feet or less	50%	\$2,500
26 to 35 feet	50%	\$3,000
36 to 45 feet	50%	\$3,500
46 to 55 feet	50%	\$4,000
56 to 65 feet	50%	\$4,500
More than 65 feet	50%	\$5,000

For businesses operating out of buildings located in Downtown, Midtown or Old Town areas, it is in the interest of the City to achieve a "historic look" for these historic retail areas. Design review will be required for all applications and will be coordinated by the Community Development Department. The City seeks façade designs that replicate the original historical look of a building, based on its date of construction. Modern day materials and construction methods may be used as long as the historical appearance is achieved.

Those applying will be required to submit plans, a detailed cost estimate, and a copy of the deed (proof of ownership).

Applications are available in the Community Development Department in Room 3 of City Hall. For additional information, call Chuck Wolfe at Claggett Wolfe Associates at 886-1300.